

## Northern Portal Closure

3 December 2009/7 Chillset 1277  
Crosswinds Tavern

*On the evening of the 7th of Chillset a sudden surge of magical energy, its origins unknown, erupted from the Northern Portal in the Crosswinds Tavern, leaving damage and chaos in its wake. Many mages in the area appeared to be strongly affected by the magical surge, some falling quite ill.*

**Joss Kiersaark**

::Joss sat in the middle booth, a plate of venison and potatoes in front of him, quietly enjoying his dinner.::

**Arnaud deBeau**

::in strolls the rogue, hands in the pockets of his knee length coat, grinning that damned grin of his::  
Kirin Fand has joined this chat.

**Joss Kiersaark**

::Glancing up, he swallowed what was in his mouth and nodded.:: Evening, sir.

**Arnaud deBeau**

::nods to Joss as he makes his way towards the bar:: Evening

**Arnaud deBeau**

::leans against the bar, flagging down Asa to order a glass of red wine, a pair of silver making their way across the bar in payment::

**Joss Kiersaark**

::And back to his meal he went, quiet as always.::

**Tandiri**

@::a carriage, obviously rented, but one of the nicer rental carriages to be had in Dreven, rolled up in front of the Tavern::

**Tandiri**

@::a footman hopped down and scurried around the end of the carriage to the Tavern facing carriage door and opened it::

**Arnaud deBeau**

::his wine delivered, he turns to face the empty room::

**GenesisAvatarX**

::The Day of the Snake, the 7th of Chillset. The day had dawned particularly cold, and as night came it was only growing colder.::

**TenalleBladesngr**

@::steps out of the carriage, turning to offer a helping hand to Tandiri in exiting the carriage::

**Joss Kiersaark**

Cold out ::he said. Not really much of a conversation starter.::

**Arnaud deBeau**

::chuckles softly, nodding in agreement with Joss:: Indeed, but nothing that a bit of wine and some good company won't cure

**Tandiri**

@::one of her ladies in waiting took Tenalle's hand and exited the carriage, before the next one did, then it was Tandiri's turn. She took Tenalle's hand with a smile for him then stepped out and looked toward the door::

spydernycti has left this chat.

**Tandiri**

@ I hope it's warm inside. ::although her hand in Tenalle's felt perfectly warm::  
CWT Vellys has joined this chat.

**TenalleBladesngr**

@::smiles slightly to Tandiri, closing the door behind her before leading her and her two ladies into the Crosswinds and the warm within::

Riane bas Lann has joined this chat.

**Anania dela Mare**

@::patted her horse as she left him in the hands of the stable boy and then headed toward the Tavern's Southern door, thankful for her very warm wool dress and cloak::

**Cailin Struan**

::The portal came to life with a white light like moonlight glistening on snowflakes. A redhaired woman and a dark haired teenager stepped out.:: You'll be fine and she'll be back here in just bit. She wanted to gather up a few more of your things that your mother wanted you to bring.

**LimelenathS**

::She nodded to Cailin and put down the pack she'd been carrying:: I know, but I still have a case of nerves. School is a big step.

**Arnaud deBeau**

::a sip of the dark red wine in his glass as more people made their way into the Crosswinds::

**Joss Kiersaark**

::He just scratched his cheek, then glanced toward the portal from his place in the middle booth.::

**Tandiri**

::as they entered the tavern, she paused to look around, her ladies and waiting moved forward and bit and whispered and giggled while looking at each of the men in the room::

**CWT Vellys**

::No time to read or lounge about tonight. The tavern was hopping.::

**CWT Vellys**

::and Vellys was behind the bar, dressed in dark and dour clothing...layers of sweaters to protect against the chill.::

**Tandiri**

Lizette, get us a bottle of wine and four glasses while we get a table.

Vittal Lexson has joined this chat.

**CWT Vellys**

::She was a freeze baby::

**CWT Vellys**

::she left everything to the imagination.::

**Tandiri**

::She nodded toward the red-haired girl and motioned for the blonde to follow her::

**TenalleBladesngr**

::leads Tandiri to an empty table, pulling out a chair for her before sitting himself::

**Cailin Struan**

You'll do well, I think. ::She shepherded Limele to the nearest table::

**Joss Kiersaark**

::All \*kinds\* of company. Of the female variety. Joss pressed his lips together briefly, then went back to the business of cleaning up his plate.::

**Tandiri**

::beneath the lightweight cloak she wore, layers of brightly colored silks could be seen flashing in the firelight as she moved with Tenalle and Brianna toward a table. She smiled and sat in the chair Tenalle offered::

**CWT Vellys**

::keeping an eye out...recongizing some important faces...washing down the bar with a wet towel...so busy::

Arnaud deBeau has left this chat.  
TenalleBladesngr has left this chat.

### **Anania dela Mare**

::she made her way in through the Southern door quietly, then reached up to push the cowl of her cloak back and reveal lengthening, but still not nearly as long as they once were, golden locks::

### **Tandiri**

::Lizette made her way over to the counter, nodding at Arnaud and blushing slightly before smiling at Vellys::

### **CWT Vellys**

::who did not smile back...nor did she frown::

### **CWT Vellys**

What'll it be?

### **Tandiri**

Esashek, a whole bottle, and four glasses, please.

### **LimelenathS**

::She looked up to the rafters; it was embarrassing for the sixteen year old to be lead around by one of her elders. However, she sat down as was expected::

### **CWT Vellys**

::a dark brow arched...it was a bitter vintage:: Of course. ::off she went to fetch a bottle... the glasses from the rack above her...::

creigmuvana has joined this chat.

### **CWT Vellys**

::moments later, she sets the lot in front of the girl:: Six silver.

### **Anania dela Mare**

::she grinned when she saw Arnaud and made her way over toward where he leaned against the counter, unfastening the toggle that held her cloak together at her throat while she walked:: Hey handsome. Fancy meeting you here.

### **Cailin Struan**

::She tucked a lock of hair behind a gently pointed ear as she moved to the counter. The heavy black fabric of her cloak rustled as she walked::

### **Tandiri**

::Lizette retrieved ten silver from a pouch dangling from her write and set it on the counter:: Thank you.

### **CWT Vellys**

::her gaze fixed on the pouch...and then the silver was scooped up and taken to the till::

### **Tandiri**

::she picked up the bottle and stuck it under her right arm, then picked up two glasses in each hand and headed toward the table where Tandiri, Tenalle, and Brianna sat::

### **Riane bas Lann**

::she stalked into the tavern and made her way to the bar without really even glancing about her::

### **Tandiri**

Tenalle, can you please open and pour? ::He nodded. Sticking a knife in the cork he pulled it out then poured the Thermadorian drink for each of them - although he would have preferred a nice Arborian wine::

creigmuvana has left this chat.

### **LimelenathS**

::She took her flute from her pack and began to play a soft, haunting melody::

### **CWT Vellys**

::She closed the till with her hip, for some reason, Riane's entrance... well, her skin prickled. Someone dangerous had just come in::

### **Joss Kiersaark**

::Unmistakable in his Silver Moon blue, Joss drank his ale and watched the growing crowd. He should

have known it would be too much to hope for a quiet night what with the fuss still about the missing steward.::

**Cailin Struan**

How much for two hot ciders, Miss?

**Anania dela Mare**

::She settled her cloak on a barstool next to where Arnaud leaned against the counter then hopped up onto the stool, shoving a strand of her now shoulder length golden hair back over her shoulder::

**Anania dela Mare**

::She held up one finger to try to get the tenderess' attention::

**Vittal Lexson**

::Hurrying into the tavern, Vittal moved with directness to the firepit. He refused to loosen his coat until the warmth of the fire started to reach him.::

**CWT Vellys**

::her gaze snapped to Cailin. Was the woman serious about the question?:: Two copper.

**Cailin Struan**

::She set four coppers on the counter.:: Two then, when you have a moment, please. ::Obviously, she was serious.::

**CWT Vellys**

::Anania would have to wait until she was done with Cailin.::

**CWT Vellys**

Sure thing. ::she turned to fetch the ciders.::

**Riane bas Lann**

::she wore black, just like her father and at her hips were her twin blades in the sheathes he had gifted her with falcons tooled into the leather.::

**LimelenathS**

::Since she was playing her flute and wasn't likely to speak, she managed a nod as a greeting to Vittal.::

**CWT Vellys**

::oh look...it was that smarmy knight... then she busied herself with ladling cider.::

**Vittal Lexson**

::Removing his coat, he revealed his SMK uniform beneath. Hanging it on a peg, he made his way to the bar and gave Vellys a smile, waiting his turn.::

**CWT Vellys**

::vittal got no smile in return. she rarely gifted people with more than a fleeting hint of a smile.::

**GenesisAvatarX**

::A slight tremor, nothing more. It rattled a couple wine bottles together. Shook the goblets. It wasn't enough to feel through the floor, unless a person was very sensitive to such things.::

**CWT Vellys**

::she delivered the cider to Cailin.::

**CWT Vellys**

::squinting at the odd way the liquid in the mugs acted.::

**GenesisAvatarX**

::Maybe someone had dropped a heavy trunk upstairs. Or shut the door too hard?::

**Cailin Struan**

Thank you. ::She took the cider and set it before Limele. She leaned to whisper something to her.::

**Anania dela Mare**

::she heard the wine bottles clinking together, but saw the tenderess at the counter and peered at them.:: I thought that Mooncalling was today or so ago.

**CWT Vellys**

::coins scooped up...she headed for Anania...who was lucky Vel interpreted the finger wagging

correctly.::

**Vittal Lexson**

::Well, he hardly expected a smile from the charming tendress. A quick glance around showed him there were no herds of horses coming through.:: When you have time, Vellys, could I get a house ale?

**CWT Vellys**

Wait your turn. ::she told Vittal::

**Tandiri**

::she sipped at her Esashek, not inclined to talk overmuch right now, and looked over the crowd assessingly. Her ladies in waiting continued to giggle and whisper while checking out the men who were already in the Tavern and those arriving. She ignored them.::

**Vittal Lexson**

Yes ma'am. ::chuckling::

**LimelenathS**

::She nodded to Cailin and frowned. For some reason, she discretely pointed out Vittal and Joss for Cailin.::

**Riane bas Lann**

::Riane stopped at the bar, resting her hand against it for a moment and going very still.::

**Vittal Lexson**

::He did flash a smile in Limele's direction, but didn't want to interrupt her playing.::

**Anania dela Mare**

::She glanced toward Vittal and turned slightly in his direction upon seeing his uniform and offered him a wide grin.:: Yes, do wait. I think I was next, Sir.

**GenesisAvatarX**

::The next time it happened, it was more sustained. Bottles clinking steadily now, and a faint shaking that could be felt through the floor. Those nearest the portal would feel it most.::

**Cailin Struan**

::She glanced at each man in turn before kissing Limele's forehead and just about ran through the portal.::

**CWT Vellys**

::She rubbed her arms against a sudden chill...then had to reach out to steady the bottles on the nearby shelf.::

**Anania dela Mare**

An Arborian red, please, tenderess.

Cailin Struan has left this chat.

**Vittal Lexson**

Good evening, Sir Joss.

**Anania dela Mare**

::she frowned and glanced around. She'd been caught in something like this before and stuck in limbo for ten years....: I don't like this.

**CWT Vellys**

I don't think tenderess is a word. ::she said, selecting the bottle.::

**Tandiri**

::she slowly set her glass on the table and frowned to look down at the floor.:: If I were in Thermador, I'd say Rashkana was about to erupt...

thebadlanders has joined this chat.

**Joss Kiersaark**

::Joss glanced up at the ceiling, as if that might reveal what could be going on up there to shake the tavern.::

**Anania dela Mare**

I don't think I care. ::she laughed slightly and smiled at Vellys.::

**Joss Kiersaark**

What? Oh, Lexington. ::He nodded politely to Vittal. Way over there in his booth.::

**LimelenathS**

::She sets her flute down and stared at the portal.::

eltanathends has joined this chat.

**CWT Vellys**

::She didn't smile at all and went about pouring wine into a glass.::

**Vittal Lexson**

Anyone here talk to a druid? Are we getting an earthquake? ::glancing around.::

**GenesisAvatarX**

::In the midst of this strange quake - if that was what it was - the portal began to hum. Coming to life, as if someone were about to come through.::

**Riane bas Lann**

::Riane turned her head just a little, one hand straying to her knife belt but not either handle. She smoothed her hand over the back of her neck.::

**Kirin Fand**

::A scream of rage followed that hum and was silenced quickly.::

**Joss Kiersaark**

::The rattling made him think of Kirin Lexington for some reason. He colored faintly. Hid it by lifting his tankard for a drink.::

Tihr Lahn has joined this chat.

**Joss Kiersaark**

::Er... what was that? He glanced around to see if anyone else had heard. Maybe it was the furniture rearrangers upstairs.::

**CWT Vellys**

I talk to druids all the ... ::her waspish remark cut off by sudden interest in the portal.::

JinxKJ1 has joined this chat.

**CWT Vellys**

::and a scream? She squinted at the thing... was Renata coming through?::

**GenesisAvatarX**

::A strange, sharp noise, high in pitch. CRACK.::

**Joss Kiersaark**

::Slowly, he set his drink down.::

**Vittal Lexson**

Now that doesn't sound good. ::Mumbling, he automatically moved over next to Limele.::

**LimelenathS**

::Her hands curled into white knuckled fists that went over her ears as that high pitched noise assaulted them.::

**CWT Vellys**

::she stepped back from the bar, abandoning the drink pouring...hugging herself.::

**GenesisAvatarX**

::Another sharp crack. And this time, one of the runes near the top of the portal shifted...then broke off, shooting through the tavern, straight toward Tandiri.::

**Riane bas Lann**

::Riane's ears moved beneath her deep, burgundy hair and the muscle in her jaw twitched.::

**CWT Vellys**

::something was....happening.::

**LimelenathS**

::She looked at Vittal. That noise... it hurts.

**Riane bas Lann**

::she cursed as the portal lost a piece.::

**Tandiri**

::she stared at the portal and scooted closer to Tenalle. I've heard bad things about this place.

**Tihr Lahn**

::The door was pulled open and almost slammed after he marched inside. He was not in the best mood tonight, his right ear twitched in irritation which of course made all the golden rings ring, and his ear twitch again.::

**Tandiri**

Maybe we should leave. ::seeing a rune fragment flying at her, Tenalle shoved her forward so her face was in her lap.::

**Vittal Lexson**

::He rested his hand on the hilt of his sword, an automatic response to a threat.::

**GenesisAvatarX**

::Another rune shuddered, and then sailed toward the counter.::

**Anania dela Mare**

Interesting... ::she leaned into Arnaud, trying not to look as worried as she was, but he knew her too well and slipped his arm around her then motioned toward the Southern door.::

**Anania dela Mare**

::she nodded and they quickly took their leave.::

Anania dela Mare has left this chat.

**Joss Kiersaark**

::Slowly, he slid off his bench and got to his feet. What was the proper response to a portal spitting pieces of itself at people?::

**CWT Vellys**

::seeing what Tenalle did to Tandiri...things were getting seriously weird.::

**Vittal Lexson**

Maybe you should get outside, Limele.

**CWT Vellys**

::glancing up then, hearing the rustling of agitated feathers.::

**Riane bas Lann**

::Leaving the bloody tavern might be the proper response.::

**Tandiri**

::Tenalle apologized to his...employer...and helped her up, her ladies quickly standing and scurrying toward the Western door - they were no longer giggling and enjoying the male eye candy.::

**GenesisAvatarX**

::The portal lit up. No colors, no swirl, just a burst of brilliant white light that illuminated the tavern. Anyone outside would be able to see it through the windows.::

**LimelenathS**

I'm not afraid, besides, Gran is supposed to be ... ::her words stopped. That second rune flying had her sliding under a table.::

**Vittal Lexson**

Go. ::He hurried over to Vellys.:: If someone's upstairs. it might be a good time to get them up.

**CWT Vellys**

Gah... ::shielding her eyes, but not in time to catching the flahs.::

JinxKJ1 has left this chat.

**Tandiri**

Oh! ::she turned away and covered her eyes with her hands. Tenalle, Lizette, and Brianna followed suit.::

**Tihr Lahn**

::Stopped in the middle of the commons, well after all where was a Rune flying off that portal, and crossed his arms over his chest. The dark eyebrows came together and he cursed under his breath.::

**Joss Kiersaark**

::He threw a hand up in front of his eyes and squinted.::

Hannah Maverickk has joined this chat.

**GenesisAvatarX**

::But it was much more than light. A mage might feel the magic and energy, strange and foreign.::

**Riane bas Lann**

::She looked toward the tender, looked up and looked away just in time.::

**CWT Vellys**

I'm not going near that portal. ::snapping at Vittal.::

**LimelenathS**

What do I tell your father? That I lost her? ::She dragged her pack under the table.::

**CWT Vellys**

::the portal was close to the stairs after all.::

**CWT Vellys**

::Just as Vellys said those words.::

**Joss Kiersaark**

I'll go. ::Keeping close to the counter, Joss made his way toward the stairs.::

**CWT Vellys**

::Sera fell from the rafters and landed in front of the bar with a loud and sickening...THUD.::

**Vittal Lexson**

::He swore slightly as the light struck his eyes, forcing him to cover them with his arm.::

**CWT Vellys**

::maybe she fell on someone.::

**Tihr Lahn**

::Cursed again and closed his eyes. Fine he knew they were due any moment and he was late but why in the world does his Grace need to make such a forceful show of coming through that blasted gate.::

**CWT Vellys**

::and did not move.::

**Tandiri**

::the group of four bent inward, holding themselves as if they were in pain.::

Moribi Chesher has joined this chat.

**Joss Kiersaark**

::Well, he *was* going to go upstairs. Instead, he darted over to Sera to see if she was still alive. That was a nasty fall.::

**Riane bas Lann**

::Just missed by the Selevanti, she stepped over to her and knelt down to check for life.::

**CWT Vellys**

::the selevanti was alive..but out cold and twitching, clicking and warbling...::

**Moribi Chesher**

::a slight stir in the summer breeze whistling in the distance.::

**CWT Vellys**

::so not quiet out cold, but unresponsive.::

**Joss Kiersaark**

::He glanced up at Riane.:: Can you drag her outside?

**Vittal Lexson**

::Reaching for the sound of the thud, he slid over the counter, reaching for her. He was having a hard time seeing though.:: Better get her behind the counter.

**CWT Vellys**

::It was Chillset so it wasn't summer...but...::

**Riane bas Lann**

::thunderstorm eyes studied her then shot to Joss.::

eltanathends has left this chat.

**GenesisAvatarX**

::Debris and dust began to kick up in the tavern. Like someone had left open the windows during a storm.::

**Moribi Chesher**

:...except...it's fall::

**Riane bas Lann**

::she didn't answer, but looped her hands around Sera's ...ankles... and dragged her toward the southern door by her feet::

**Moribi Chesher**

::or winter::

**Tandiri**

::suddenly Tenalle's shoes were covered with what had been in Tandiri's stomach. Brianna and Lizette fell to their knees as tears of pain streamed down their faces and they began to shake uncontrollably near the Western door::

**Joss Kiersaark**

::Snow and everything.::

**Vittal Lexson**

::Then there was Joss.:: I'll help.

**CWT Vellys**

::yes, chillset::

**Tihr Lahn**

::His left foot comes out and he kicks one Rune closer to him, not so sure he wants to pick it up. A line on his forehead signals his worry, if they were coming in from Arboria the portal should have opened already.::

**CWT Vellys**

::Vellys ducked behind the bar...and did feel a sudden concern for Asa and Abby. She sort of duck walked to the kitchen door.::

**Hannah Maverickk**

::talk about a wrong day to visit. She pulled open the southern door.:: Hey!

**Vittal Lexson**

::He moved to help Riane get the Selventi outside.::

**LimelenathS**

::She peered out from under the table at the being the fell from the rafters. She followed after Riane, pack and all ::

**Joss Kiersaark**

::He nodded at Riane, then turned his gaze on Vittal.:: See if you can convince people to get out of here. ::And then he was darting toward the stairs and up.::

**GenesisAvatarX**

::The rune near Tihr's foot was glowing, just faintly.::

**Moribi Chesher**

@::the young man whistled, hands in his coat, oversized floppy hat down over his wild black hair.::

**Tihr Lahn**

::Leans into the sudden wind and reaches for the Rune, his ears go back and his arm comes up to cover his face from the sudden onslaught of dust and dirt.::

**Vittal Lexson**

Everyone who values his or her life, get OUT!

**Riane bas Lann**

::She paused at the door, opened it, letting the wind in, and tugged the birdy broad out the door.::

**Moribi Chesher**

@Now that...is an interesting smell.

**Tandiri**

::Tenalle, although feeling pain through is whole body, seemed the least affected of the four, and he peered through the white light at the portal.:: What in the name of Seluvia...?

**Hannah Maverickk**

@::outside, just holding the southern door open::

**Hannah Maverickk**

@::and trying not to throw up::

**Tandiri**

::Tandiri was doubled over, on her knees now on the floor, and losing everything she'd eaten that day onto the wood in front of her::

**LimelenathS**

@ ::She gathered a few rocks to hurl at the upstairs windows in hopes of rousing people that might be on that floor of the building::

**GenesisAvatarX**

::Slowly, the wind - or whatever it was - began to settle. The portal remained alight::

**Riane bas Lann**

@ ::oh lookit that::

**CWT Vellys**

::at the kitchen door... it wouldn't open!::

**CWT Vellys**

::tug pull tug pull nothing would work. Stupid old man, probably barred the door::

**Riane bas Lann**

@ ::she dragged Sera a few feet down the path::

**Tandiri**

::Tenalle wrapped his arms around Tandiri, not caring about the vomit, and tried to help/haul her toward the Western door::

**Vittal Lexson**

::He hurried over towards Tandiri and her group. helping to move them out of the tavern::

**Joss Kiersaark**

@::Upstairs, Joss went from door to door, banging on them and throwing them open where they weren't locked.:: Out of the tavern! Now! ::No, he wasn't going to explain. Shaking building, wind, light -- only idiots needed explanations. Not that there weren't any::

**LimelenathS**

@ ::Her aim was a little too good first time around and the rock went right through the window!::

**Moribi Chesher**

::the young man pushed the door open, walking into the mouth of the beast willingly::

**Tihr Lahn**

::Slightly warm to the touch and it let out a strange high pitched sound that hurt his sensitive ears, did it slightly vibrate in his hand? ::

**Tandiri**

::Brianna tried to smile at Vittal as he helped them out of the tavern, even weakly batting her blonde lashes at him for a moment before she cried out again and began shaking in pain once more::

**GenesisAvatarX**

::A little like the eye of the storm::

**Hannah Maverickk**

@::she let go of the door and stepped to the side deciding this was a good time to lean against the nearest outside wall::

**CWT Vellys**

::She stayed ducked down behind the bar. This was dangerous and thus, exciting. Besides, she had a job to do::

**Vittal Lexson**

Vellys, get out! ::He'd carry anyone who stumbled or tripped::

**Tihr Lahn**

::Thir was no fool, while not a Mage he had enough sense to snatch on of the Runes the Portal had flung across the room. He gingerly wrapped it in his scarf and hide it away under his vest::

**GenesisAvatarX**

::And then it all reversed. Where energy and light had burst forth from the portal, it now began to draw back inward rapidly.::

**Tandiri**

::Tenalle got the women outside then forced himself to go back inside, Tihir was there and he sure didn't want to be left out on what was going on.::

**Joss Kiersaark**

@::Some of the guests ran down the stairs. Some of them screamed. That was helpful. One fell.::

**CWT Vellys**

::air rushed and roared in her ears.::

**GenesisAvatarX**

::A few scraps of paper, a cork...they shot into the portal and vanished.::

**Moribi Chesher**

Oh. Curious.

**Tandiri**

@::Tandiri leaned over the porch railing and continued to retch until she didn't have anything left.::

**Moribi Chesher**

::he caught a rolling bit of fluff as it approached the portal and kneaded it in his fingers.::

**Tandiri**

::Tenalle got them out with Vittal's help....::

**LimelenathS**

@ ::Even from outside, the shrill noise of rushing wind had her covering her ears again.::

**Riane bas Lann**

@ ::Riane's jaw was set tight. Her stomach twisted but she would not ...she would not... she left the Seleventi in the snow and headed back toward the tavern.::

**Vittal Lexson**

@::Now that they were outside, he dashed back into the tavern, trying to focus. Seeing those heading down the stairs, he hurried them out as fast as he could.::

**Tandiri**

::Tenalle watched dust being sucked toward the portal and the rune that had flown at Tandiri's head, he tried to catch the rune, diving at it, before it got sucked into the portal.::

**CWT Vellys**

::bottles, glasses, mugs were falling off the shelves.::

**GenesisAvatarX**

::Like a whirlwind, the Northern Portal was sucking things back in.::

**Joss Kiersaark**

@::All the way around he went, the dust flying still, but it seemed to have reversed direction. He urged the last guests to hurry and followed them down the stairs.::

**Hannah Maverickk**

@::odd, that her legs didn't seem to want to work. They slowly folded under her until she found herself sitting on the ground back against the wall.::

**Moribi Chesher**

::he rocked on his heels as the crowd rushed past him.::

**Joss Kiersaark**

@::The lady that had tripped on the stairs ran toward the western door, only she didn't seem to be making a lot of progress. Her arms windmilled and she screamed, too.::

**Tandiri**

::scrambling, he snatched up the rune then began to try to make his way back out again...it was tough fighting against something trying to suck him in as he took one slow step toward the Western door only to slide two steps back.::

**Vittal Lexson**

@::Half pushing the last of the escapees outside, he hunted for Vellys, trying to stay as far from

the portal as possible.::

**Tihr Lahn**

::Crosses his arms again, lets out a very deep sigh since the blasted bar is halfway across the room and way to close to that Portal :: Wonderful now it also is bend on taking the only amusement in this town, the Makwi....

**GenesisAvatarX**

::A chair slid across the floor toward the Portal.::

**Tihr Lahn**

::Looks over his shoulder and still has both feet very firm on the ground.::

**Joss Kiersaark**

::The lady slid inexorably closer to the portal and then POP! she disappeared.::

**Tandiri**

::falling on hands and knees he began to make more headway toward the Western door.::

**CWT Vellys**

::vellys wedged herself beneath the bar on one of the larger shelves.::

**Moribi Chesher**

::he stepped over a cup as it bounced toward the portal...then stepped on the back of the chair as it slid a few feet then off.::

**CWT Vellys**

::there was a knothole she could push out... whoops... watch out... knot hole flying through the air!::

**Riane bas Lann**

::There were those who needed guiding and she made her way against the bar to help with those others who came down the stairs ahead of Joss. She scowled at the sight of the woman being sucked into the portal with a \*pop\*::

**Vittal Lexson**

::Vittal tried to grab at the woman heading into the portal.::

**Tihr Lahn**

::Granted it was with a LOT of effort but his darn pride would rather hurt his legs and bones then let all those landlubbers know HE the former Pirate could not stand up against a strong wind/pull since he had been through a lot

**Tandiri**

::He crawled right out the Western door and looked back to see if anyone followed him that needed help.::

**GenesisAvatarX**

::Disconcerting to have someone vanishing with a popping noise. That couldn't be good.::

**Joss Kiersaark**

::Too late! She was gone!::

**Tihr Lahn**

worse storms on his ships.::

**Riane bas Lann**

::knocked in the knee by a knot.::

**Moribi Chesher**

::to Riane:: Was that painful?

**Tihr Lahn**

::Now it was starting to get more painful and he started to paddle backwards towards a door as graceful as one could.:

**Riane bas Lann**

::she cursed, tugging a random guest and shoving them toward the southern door.::

**Tihr Lahn**

::Grunts as a table slides into his back.::

**GenesisAvatarX**

::Something flew through the passthrough, sucked out of the kitchen and into the Commons, then out through the Portal.::

**Riane bas Lann**

::she glared at Moribi::

**Vittal Lexson**

::Unfortunately, he was caught up in the pull of the portal himself and fought against it's pull.::

**Moribi Chesher**

::he stared with flat affect::

**GenesisAvatarX**

::It was followed by a large kitchen knife, sailing through the air....::

**Moribi Chesher**

No?

**Tandiri**

::he braced his feet on either side of the door frame on the outside and waited for Tihir to get close enough to lend a hand and pull him out::

**Joss Kiersaark**

::On the stairs, Joss pressed his back to the wall. The force of suction was such that he couldn't leave the stairs and not fall under its influence.::

**CWT Vellys**

::bottles crashing to the ground, bits of glass now flying after the kitchen knife::

**Riane bas Lann**

Idiot, ::she growled, shoving her capture toward the door, telling the man to get out fast::

**CWT Vellys**

::and a good sized tankard::

**Moribi Chesher**

::he stood easily in the chaos, watching the bystanders and portal with quiet fascination:: Idiot. Do I seem so?

**Moribi Chesher**

::quietly to himself:: Not a surprise.

**Riane bas Lann**

That all of them? ::She shouted to Joss::

**Vittal Lexson**

::This was definitely not good as the knife found a secure place in his upper arm. But better than the portal.::

**Joss Kiersaark**

That's it! ::he called back over the roar.::

**Moribi Chesher**

::a dinner plate complete with food flew at his his back::

**Riane bas Lann**

::she was holding onto the end of the bar nearest the southern door::

**Tandiri**

::Fighting against dry heaves, Tandiri ushered her ladies-in-waiting toward the rented carriage - she wanted out of here or at least in the carriage for a fast escape once Tenalle was ready to go::

**LimelenathS**

@ ::She resisted the urge to back into the building. Given her level of curiosity, it was no easy task! She did, however, pull out whatever she could find in her pack to help warm Sera and wrapped her up.::

**Moribi Chesher**

::he looked over at it and tilted his head...it slapped against his coat, soiling it with sauce then it dropped to the ground, losing all of its energy and motion::

**Vittal Lexson**

::All he could do was drop to the ground and hold on tightly to the nearest post, which was

uncomfortably close to the portal.::

**Moribi Chesher**

::he brushed himself off, although it seemed to merely spread the food, as he approached Vittal Lexson::

**CWT Vellys**

::cushions and bedding from upstairs suddenly sailed down the stairs::

**CWT Vellys**

::about a dozen towels and pillows whirled around the tavern, along with brands from the fire pit. Occasionally they collided.::

**GenesisAvatarX**

::One of the larger tables began sliding across the floor, toward the Portal.::

**CWT Vellys**

::flaming pillows and towels flailing circling the room::

**Tihr Lahn**

::Finally outside the Western Door! ::

**Riane bas Lann**

::She saw the plight of the knight but couldn't let go of the bar to help him::

**Moribi Chesher**

::he stared at Vittal with his simple, curious, steady gaze:: Evening. Are you safe?

Qasmouna has joined this chat.

**CWT Vellys**

::a few flaming pillows flew right at the unflappable Moribi::

**GenesisAvatarX**

::The table stuttered to a halt in its progress toward the portal. Some of what was in the air just...dropped.::

**Moribi Chesher**

::he cleared his throat, as if warning the pillows not to interrupt him::

**Vittal Lexson**

No. ::The odd man was a moron, for certain.::

**Moribi Chesher**

::and they passed through him...or did they? somehow they were suddenly on the other side of him::

**Tandiri**

::offered a hand to Tihr to help him out the Western door then tried to pull it shut::

**Joss Kiersaark**

::Joss stood there for a moment, then eased away from the wall.:: Everyone all right?

**Moribi Chesher**

I think it is safer behind the bar. Just a thought.

**CWT Vellys**

::Vel watched it all through the knothole::

**GenesisAvatarX**

::The light from the portal was blinking, fluctuating.::

**Vittal Lexson**

Thanks. ::dryly as he found he could stand again.::

**Joss Kiersaark**

::He wiped a hand down his dust-coated face. The General wasn't going to like this at all. A glance toward the portal, and he started toward Vittal.::

**Moribi Chesher**

::seems to be the last to notice the end of the bar's shenanigans::

**Moribi Chesher**

::blinks with surprise::

**Riane bas Lann**

Think it's done? ::Riane upnodded toward the portal, looking at Joss then Vittal::

**Tandiri**

::he fell over backwards as the portal suction just suddenly stopped and the Western door SLAMMED shut::

**GenesisAvatarX**

::Then it came, one last effort from the Portal, a last great inhale.::

**Moribi Chesher**

::he reached for Vittal's arm, attempting to grab him::

**Tandiri**

::He glanced at Tihir and then at the door:: Think it's safe to go back in?

**Riane bas Lann**

::she hadn't let go yet but saw Joss moving::

**Joss Kiersaark**

::Joss's eyes widened as he slid across the floor. At speed.::

**LimelenathS**

@ ::Once Sera was attended to, Limele went promptly behind a tree and emptied her stomach::

**CWT Vellys**

::not moving from her hiding spot::

**CWT Vellys**

::not yet::

**Vittal Lexson**

::He started to shrug off Moribi's hand and nearly flew into the portal.::

**Tandiri**

@::Tandiri leaned out the carriage door and heaved dryly - her ladies huddled together shivering in pain on the opposite seat of the carriage::

**Vittal Lexson**

Sir! ::He grabbed for Joss instead::

**Joss Kiersaark**

::He threw himself forward, hit the floor sliding.::

**Moribi Chesher**

::misses:: Oh. Unfortunate.::sighs::

**Joss Kiersaark**

::Reaching fingers just missed Vittal's and then WHOOSH! he was gone, too.::

**Qasmouna**

@::Well bundled against the evening chill, she made her way towards the western door, cloak pulled very tightly around her, hat stuffed down over her scarfed head for extra measure, and a new scarf wrapped around her face as well. Muffled complaints about the weather were grumbled in her native tongue.::

**Vittal Lexson**

::No longer holding onto anything stable, he wasn't far behind Joss.::

**GenesisAvatarX**

::With a pressure change enough to make one's ears pop, the whirlwind came to an abrupt end. The light from the portal died.::

**LimelenathS**

@ ::Seeing Qas, she called over:: Don't go in!!

**Tihir Lahn**

@I am not sure it is:: looks back inside:: Now it is ! ::Points to the dark Portal::

**CWT Vellys**

::watching the knights disappear into the portal. Rane will be pissed.::

**Riane bas Lann**

::she'd reached one handed for one of her knives, holding to the bar, but he was gone that fast,

faster than she was able to do a thing and she watched the other knight on his way as well:...  
gods...

### **Qasmouna**

@::She paused, seeing folks outside, and hearing Limele she simply stopped, her brow furrowed. She pulled the scarf down exposing her nose and lips:: What? Why?

### **Tandiri**

@::Peers through the window where Tihir was pointing:: Hmm...

### **LimelenathS**

@ The portal has gone crazy! ::She looked about as white as the snow on the ground::

### **Tandiri**

@::Tenalle continued peering in through the window next to the Western door, not seeing Qasmouna approaching::

### **GenesisAvatarX**

::No humming, no vibration, no signs of life from the portal...at all::

### **Qasmouna**

@What?! ::Her eyes widened and she rushed up to peek in a window::

### **Riane bas Lann**

::the pressure, the pull was gone, though she still felt quite ill::

### **Tandiri**

@::Tandiri wiped her mouth with a silken sleeve, not caring at this point. Her whole body felt as though someone had stuck needles into her and were continuing to do so:: (vsw) No...magic...

### **Tihir Lahn**

@::Taps the rune under his vest for a moment and leans inside the door:: I take it that thing finally managed to turn itself off? :as if anybody is going to answer ::

### **GenesisAvatarX**

::Not to say that the rest of the tavern wasn't in interesting condition. The hearth had gone out, but some of the fabric that had been sucked down the stairs still smoldered::

### **CWT Vellys**

::still not emerging from her hiding place::

### **CWT Vellys**

::broken glass everywhere::

### **LimelenathS**

@ ::She headed up the steps behind Qas and was careful to avoid getting in anyone else's way::

### **Tandiri**

@::He turned to follow Tihir only to almost run into Limelenath, he bowed slightly and uttered an apology::

### **Moribi Chesher**

::he brushed some more of the meal off of his shoulder::

### **Riane bas Lann**

::she let go of the bar and moved carefully across the floor, finally standing in front of the dark, dead portal::

### **LimelenathS**

@ ::She bowed her head in return and sidestepped the stranger::

### **GenesisAvatarX**

::A few runes missing on the portal. A couple others cracked, damaged somehow::

### **Moribi Chesher**

::he sniffled slightly...made a face:: That smell...

### **Riane bas Lann**

Shite, ::she murmured::

### **CWT Vellys**

::seemed to have ...well, calmed down, cautiously uncurling from her spot on the shelf::

### **Riane bas Lann**

::then she turned and walked quickly toward the western door::

**Tihr Lahn**

::Steps aside for Raine and turns his head to look after her for a moment::

**Hannah Maverickk**

@::curled up in a ball having an enforced nap::

**Vittal Lexson**

::Darn, Vittal left his coat behind too::

**Moribi Chesher**

::he looked over at Vittal's coat::

**Riane bas Lann**

::by the time she got to it, then through it, she was running - heading for home::

**Moribi Chesher**

::then the portal...looks it over:: Broken.

**Qasmouna**

@::She turned to Limele:: Do you think it is safe to go inside?

**CWT Vellys**

::slowly peeking over the bar::

**CWT Vellys**

::dammit...she would have clean this all up::

**Tandiri**

@::when he bowed he felt something poke into his clenched fist, he opened it and looked at the partial rune he'd grabbed::

**Tihr Lahn**

::Curses something under his breath and heads deeper into the commons, trying to ignore the stench that now filled the air around them::

**Tandiri**

::Tenalle made his way in after Tihr, and the stench smelled no worse than a camel after a hard days ride in the desert::

Riane bas Lann has left this chat.

**Moribi Chesher**

::sniffs again...smells something in the air::

**GenesisAvatarX**

::The Portal did seem to be broken. If anyone were crazy enough to try it this evening, nothing would happen::

**Tandiri**

::Tandiri thought to herself as she sat back against the seat and actually enjoyed the cold air. ~If dan Rikash had been in Dreven, this wouldn't have happened. This is all his fault::~

**Tihr Lahn**

I wonder if any bottles managed not to break:: over his shoulder to Tenalle, his head turned forward again and he raised his voice to Mirbi:: Broken you say?

**LimelenathS**

@ ::She finally recovered her senses:: I don't know... but I don't see Sir Joss or Vittal and they were in there!!

**Moribi Chesher**

::nods at the portal, not at Tihr:: It is all very shattered.

**Tandiri**

::He'd nodded in agreement with Tihr, then glanced toward the portal and the man declaring it broken::

**Moribi Chesher**

::not quite as he saw it in his dream, but similar::

**Tandiri**

@::Tandiri fought back another wave of nausea, the pain pricking through her body was now

steady, but not increasing::

**CWT Vellys**

::slowly she stood up straight, smoothing out her dress, cutting her hand on a small sliver of glass stuck to the fabric of her sweater::

**Tihr Lahn**

::His fingers dance over the hidden rune under his clothes:: Well well ....I think I must agree.

**CWT Vellys**

::breath hissing at the sudden pain, the thin ribbon of blood::

**CWT Vellys**

::it made her think of Ethan...the port of Rane... she sucked the blood from her hand::

**Qasmouna**

@What? Was anyone else there? ::A sort of desperation came over her and she entered into the tavern through the western door. She started to shake a bit, looking the portal over, anger stretching across her face::

**Tandiri**

::Tenalle shifted the broken rune in his closed fist as he gazed at the other broken runes on the portal and wondered what it meant::

**Tihr Lahn**

::Reaches the bar and looks over the counter:: I think this calls for a Thunderslake.

**Tihr Lahn**

You are bleeding:: said with a straight face to Vellys stood near him?::

**Moribi Chesher**

::notes Qasmouna::

**Moribi Chesher**

::briefly::

**LimelenathS**

@ I don't see anyone else missing. At least no one that I know.

**Qasmouna**

::She looked over the tavern again, and not seeing any sign of Vittal, headed back out to Limele::

@Tell me what happened. I want to know everything you saw.

**CWT Vellys**

::eyeing Tihr:: Yes.

**Tihr Lahn**

::Kicks a broken glass out of the way:: Broken ...:shakes his head:: I guess this means the company I expected may arrive somewhere else...

**Moribi Chesher**

::to Tihr:: You see it too?

**Moribi Chesher**

::nods and walks toward the dark portal with suddenly swift and nimble strides::

**Tandiri**

Your....sir...Tihr...I need to get back to her Grace now that things are...under control here. Tell His Grace I will be back in Arboria in another tenday or so unless Her Grace still needs me.

**LimelenathS**

@ The ground shook, the glass rattled, she screamed, the portal hummed, it spit things out, Sera fell down... and that was when they told me to get outside!

**Tihr Lahn**

See? This place is going to the abyss faster then the crow can fly over the marshes.....:nods to the other Elf:: I will.

**Tihr Lahn**

If all fails:: said softly in Arborian:: Leave word with the Rangers in Dreven it will get to me.

**Moribi Chesher**

::scratches his nose::

**Tandiri**

::he gave a nod to Tihir and headed quickly, or as quickly as one can through debris, vomit, and out of place tables to the Western door, through it, and to Tandiri's carriage::

**Tihir Lahn**

You really should get that cut looked at :: to Vellys::

**Tandiri**

@::The quartet of passengers were carried off into the night to Taysayad Keep where of course the ladies-in-waiting would spread gossip of what happened her tonight - accurate or not::

**Qasmouna**

@::She was still shaking slightly, but obviously not from the cold. Her speech took on a slight accent, her vowel and consonant pronunciation shifting slightly:: So...what happened to Joss and Vittal then. Did you see?

**CWT Vellys**

It's only pain. ::already wrapping her hand with a strip of unburnt cloth::

**Tandiri**

::And Tandiri would report what happened to that person in charge...what's his name...and how she was very unhappy that the Steward didn't stop it::

**Tandiri**

::Steward dan Rikash, that is::

**Tihir Lahn**

If it is only Pain and you do not mind do you see any Thunderslake left back behind the counter?

**GenesisAvatarX**

::Damned Steward. See what happens when he takes off?::

**LimelenathS**

@ If they're not in there, one of two things happened. ::She frowned:: They got out and went to the city or they sucked in...

**CWT Vellys**

::the shelves here empty behind her...she looked over her shoulder:: I see anasera. Do you want some of that? ::poker face::

**Tihir Lahn**

It will do.

Tandiri has left this chat.

**CWT Vellys**

::she took the bottle, it's neck broken so no need to uncork it...::

**Tihir Lahn**

Smells the same as this place and you just want to be kind enough to poison me and take me out of this misery right?

**CWT Vellys**

::and thumped it on the bar in front of Tihir. no glasses..they were broken:: Five gold.

**Tihir Lahn**

::Pushes the bottle back:: Only if you add that bottle of Gi next to it with it, I do need something to wash this Blood down with.

**Qasmouna**

@Sucked in? Where would they go? ::She leaned back against the wall, fearing the worst:: And you didn't see either of them leave?

**LimelenathS**

@ No, I was out here. ::She muttered::

**CWT Vellys**

That bottle? ::a ghost of a smile as she reached for it::

BartonBBagsby has joined this chat.

**CWT Vellys**

::she set it down next to the anasera:: Only if you drink the Anasera first.

**Tihr Lahn**

::Arches one brow:: Should I tell you to charge it to Barons Streyllans account? ::Reaches for the bottle of old stinky blood::

**Tihr Lahn**

::Takes a drink, a good one too not a little sip and makes a face::

**LimelenathS**

@ Bad enough I have to tell Lex that I can't find Gran! ::She grumbled:: I probably have to tell him they went missing, too.

**Qasmouna**

@::Her breathing quickened:: I think...he would have stayed to make sure no one outside was hurt if he got out...Kirin was there too?

**Moribi Chesher**

::the portal was cold, the night colder...Moribi made off to meet it::

**LimelenathS**

@ She was supposed to be on her way back here.

Moribi Chesher has left this chat.

**Qasmouna**

@::Her eyes widened again in disbelief, the cold hardly noticeable with so many other thoughts fluttering through her mind:: So she wasn't inside when the portal...went crazy...

**CWT Vellys**

No good. Who knows when he'll be back to pay.

**Tihr Lahn**

::counts down the coins:: Just as I remember, foul tasting brew that makes your toenails curl  
thebadlanders has left this chat.

**LimelenathS**

@ No, my other grandmother came tonight. She went back through to hurry her up. I heard a scream... and that was it.

**CWT Vellys**

::smiling as she counted the coins...honest to goodness smiling::

**LimelenathS**

@ Anyway... I have no idea what to tell him, Qas. ::She shook her head::

**Qasmouna**

@::It seemed at this point like she was trying to stuff any and all emotion down. Shaking a bit more now with the help of the cold, she stalked off the porch steps and into the distance a bit before stopping, quickly wiping at her eyes as she went. She made sure she wasn't facing Limele::

**LimelenathS**

@ We should warm up first.

**CWT Vellys**

::Pocketing the gold, she stepped back and tried the kitchen door again::

**CWT Vellys**

::still bolted...blast::

GenesisAvatarX has left this chat.

**BartonBBagsby**

@::The night sky was ablaze as a balloon came to rest high above the tavern. Fire burned seemingly suspended in mid-air below a great opening in the airship::

**CWT Vellys**

::so she went upstairs instead to clean up up there...yeah...clean up::

**Tihr Lahn**

::Snags up the better bottle of stuff that will make him kill this pain in his head:

**LimelenathS**

@ You think we can find any hot drinks?

CWT Vellys has left this chat.

**Tihr Lahn**

::His head was throbbing not because he had an any hint of the mage gift, not more as your normal Elf, but because of the tiny little problem of his Archmage not showing up via that blown to pieces portal.

**BartonBBagsby**

@::Muted voices echoed high above punctuated by dull thuds of sands banks tied to ropes hitting the ground. The fire dimmed slightly and the drifted closer to the ground.::

**Tihr Lahn**

:Which could be they have tried and could not go through and for sure not they would have already made it. Ranu would have been outside waiting for him::

**Qasmouna**

@::She turned and headed back towards Limele and simply nodded, her eyes a little red.:: I don't know if we'll find anything...it's a mess in there...

**LimelenathS**

@ I think this is going to be a long night. ::She opened her arms to hug Qas::

**Qasmouna**

@::She gave Limele a hug.:: I think it will be...

**BartonBBagsby**

@::A basket was lower from craft to the ground. It carried a jolly man, dressed in an oriental fashion. Climbing from the basket, he made straight away for the tavern by the southern.::

**LimelenathS**

@ I'm going to be the messenger giving news that used to get people killed. ::she muttered::

**Qasmouna**

@I am sorry...if you want me to be there when you give the news I will...

**LimelenathS**

@ Thank you, but ... I think I need do what my uncle refers to as grow up and face reality.

=====

*Soon after the event, it was discovered that the Northern Portal was no longer working at all. Those knowledgeable about the portal may observe that some of the runes on the portal now appear to be cracked, broken or missing entirely. Damage to the tavern, as usual, appears to be fixing itself. However, it seems to be happening at a slower pace than usual.*

*The same magical surge that affected the Northern Portal also seemed to careen through the ley lines, emerging randomly through other portals in Hyathis to cause damage, strange magical events, and even natural disasters. None of these portals are working any longer either. Mages, particularly those who were near a portal or casting at the time of the occurrence, were affected in ways similar to those who were near the Northern Portal.*

*Disasters, magical instability, and the lack of ability to portal have caused great concern and confusion through much of the populace.*